MODEL ROCKETEER'S SAFETY CODE

CONSTRUCTION
My model rockets will be made of only lightweight materials such as paper, wood, plastic, and thin metallic foils, with the exception of payloads and engine holders made of wirelike material.

ENGINES
I will use only pre-loaded factory made model rocket engines in the manner recommended by the manufacturer. I will not change in any way nor attempt to reload these engines.

RECOVERY
I will always use a recovery system in my model rocket that will return them safely to the ground so that they may be flown again.

WEIGHT LIMITS
My model rocket will weigh no more than 453 grams (16 oz.) at liftoff, and the engines will contain no more than 113 grams (4 oz.) of propellant, as prescribed by Federal Regulations.

STABILITY
I will check the stability of my model rockets before their first flight except when launching models of already proven stability.

LAUNCHING SYSTEM
The system I use to launch my rockets will be remotely controlled and electrically operated, and will contain a switch that will return to "off" when released. I will remain at least 10 feet away from any rocket that is being launched.

LAUNCH SAFETY
I will not let anyone approach a model rocket on a launcher until I have made sure that either the safety interlock key has been removed or the battery has been disconnected from my launcher.

FLYING CONDITIONS
I will not launch my model rocket in high winds, near buildings, power lines, tall trees, low flying aircraft or under any conditions which might be dangerous to people or property.

LAUNCH AREA
My model rockets will always be launched from a cleared area, free of any easy to burn materials, and I will only use nonflammable recovery wadding in my rockets.

BLAST DEFLECTOR
My launcher will have a blast deflector device to prevent the engine exhaust from hitting the ground directly.

LAUNCH ROD
To prevent accidental eye injury I will always place the launcher so the end of the rod is above eye level or cap the end of the rod with my hand when approaching it. I will never place my head or body over the launching rod. When my launcher is not in use I will always store it so that the launch rod it not in an upright position.

POWER LINES
I will never attempt to recover my rocket from a power line or other dangerous places.

LAUNCH TARGETS AND ANGLE
I will not launch rockets so their flight path will carry them against targets on the ground, and will never use an explosive warhead nor a payload that is intended to be flammable. My launching device will always be pointed within 30 degrees of vertical.

PRE-LAUNCH TEST
When conducting research activities with unproven designs or methods, I will, when possible, determine their reliability through pre-launch tests. I will conduct launchings of unproven designs in complete isolation from persons not participating in the actual launching.

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